to advise on pesticides residues in food under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955. The Commitee has fixed pesticides residues tolerance limits against 31 pesticides in different food Commodities which have been notified by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Any food commodity carrying residues in excess to the prescribed tolerance limits, can be confiscated and its owner can be punished as per rules.

(c) The Programme Advisory Group for the Department of Science & Technology Plan scheme "Consumer Protection through Science & Technology", in November, 1986, had constituted a Working Sub-Group on Pesticide Residues in Food. The Group's terms of Reference are to prepare a Status Report on Pesticide Residues in Food and to suggest action points. The Group is composed of its Specialists including those from the consumer interest groups. The sub-group has prepared the draft report. The Programme Advisory Group has yet to examine the report for making suitable recommendations to the Government. Follow up action can be taken only after final decision on the report.

Recognition to International Organisation of Consumer Unions

2361. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Organisation of Consumer Unions, Hague and Penang are recognised by Government and if not, whether necessary recognition is likely to be accorded as it has done pioneering work all over the world;

(b) whether Government are aware that International Organisation of Consumer Unions has guidelines for recognition of national consumer organisation and if so, whether these would be applied for recognition of consumer Unions in the country; and

(c) whether only those consumer organisation in India who are fully affiliated/recognised by International Organisation of Consumer Unions will be represented on various boards etc. to be set up under Consumer Protection Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to recognise any consumer organisation under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Voluntary Consumer Organisation

2362. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are over 230 registered voluntary consumer organisations in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of these are non-functional;

(c) whether Government are aware that due to rigid rules for registration of societies and delays and labour involved many good parties feel discouraged to organise voluntary consumer organisations; and

(d) whether Government propose to simplify the existing procedures and rules and also recognise such organisations for 5 years after due verification on *ad hoc* basis in order to enable them to organise themselves effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Central Government has compiled a list of over 240 voluntary consumer organisations which are spread over in various States and UTs. A number of these organisations are engaged in furtherance of the cause of the consumers. Under the Consumer Protection Act, any consumer or any voluntary consumer association registered under

the Companies Act, 1956 or under any other law for the time being in force can file complaint before the redressal machinery. There is no proposal to recognise consumer organisations under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The procedures prescribed under the Rules for redressal of consumer grievances under the Consumer Protection Act are simple and speedy.

Water supply in R. K. Puram, New Delhi

2363. SHRI GHAN SHYAM SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the water is supplied daily in Sectors IV, V, VI and VII, R. K. Puram, New Delhi for a very short period which causes great hardship to the residents of these sectors;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Water Supply in R. K. Puram is intermittent. Water is supplied for 3 hours in the morning and 3 hours in the evening Sometimes duration of supply is affected on account of low voltage/power failure.

(c) Further improvement in water suply in R. K. Puram area would be possible when Delhi's Water supply is augmented.

Exploitation of Scheduled Tribes by Contractors

2364. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Scheduled Tribes in the country are being exploited by the contractors, etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward any legislation before Parliament to protect the Scheduled Tribes from such exploitation; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Whenever cases involving exploitation of Scheduled Tribes by contractors in forestry, mining operations, etc., come to notice of the Government, appropriate action under the existing law is taken by the concerned agencies for redressal of their grievances. No new legislation for the purpose is contemplated.

(c) Does not arise.

Allotment of palmolein oil to Andhra Pradesh

2365. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to increase the palmolein oil quota for Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Government have requested to increase the quota;

(c) what is the requirement of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) what is the allotment made by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had asked for increase in their monthly allocation of imported edible oils to 15,000 MTs. The total allocation under Public Distribution System and the Small Packs Scheme to Andhra Pradesh for August, 1987 has been increased to 15,000 MTs as against 7,000 MTs in July, 1987.